Increase in Royalty to Oil Producing States

2065. SMT. URMILABEN CHIMAN-BHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State :

(a) whether it is a fact that Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have formed a group of oil producing States and have demanded a higher rate of royalty from the Central Government ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Gujarat Chief Minister met the Pime Minister in November, 1996 in this regard, alongwith other demands of the State ;

(c) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the rate of royalty being given to each State at present ; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by .Government to increase royalty of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAAL-LU) : (a) The Government is not aware of any such group.

(b) and (c) Chief Minister of Gujarat met the Prime Minister on 13.11.1996 to discuss the royalty on crude oil and pending issues such as allocation of gas, etc.

At present royalty is being paid @ Rs. 528/— per Month.

(d) The royalty on crude oil will be revised after the revision of crude oil prices.

Subsidy for Non-Conventional Energy Projects

2066. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3824 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th September, 1996 and state :

(a) whether Government have provided any subsidy for non-conventional energy projects ;

(b) if so, to what extent project-wise; and

(c) the details of subsidy given, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF POWER *&* MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VEN-UGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is providing subsidy under va-ious programmes to generate and utilise non-conventional energy such as; setting up of biogas plants, improved chulhas, biomass gasification and briquetting plants, solar thermal, water heating, both domestic and industrial, solar photovoltaic energy based rural home-lighting, lanterns, water pumps for irrigation and village level power plants, wind pumps and battery chargers, grid connected power from small hydro, bagasse-based co-generation, biomass combustion and solar photovoltaic energy and electrical power from urban and industrial wastes. The details of the subsidy available under these programmes are given in statement *[See* below).

(c) State-wise subsidy released during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given in annexure *[See* Appendix 179, annexure No 43].